



QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...

■ **JUSTIN Timberlake**, 23, right, is set to star in our favourite TV show *The O.C. The Trousersnake*, who is dating Californian babe **Cameron Diaz**, 32, is reportedly in talks



with TV bosses about taking a regular role. He'll never replace **Seth** in our affections. ■ **MR Nasty Simon Cowell** has branded the music of **Geri Halliwell**, 32, childish. The 45-year-old *X Factor* judge said: "At

the end of the day, it's all about selling albums and I just don't know anyone who would want to buy a Geri Halliwell album."

■ **CELEBRITIES** including **Calum Best**, 22, (right), **Sophie**



Anderton, 27, and **Victoria Silvstedt**, 30, will gather tonight for the launch of *Stringfellows.com*. The gregarious *Stringie* will open his hallowed doors to unveil the world's most expensive sex toy. We can, er, hardly wait.

Picture: WIREIMAGE.COM

A big Hi! from Heidi and her chum Gisele

■ **THERE'S** no reason to be **Klum** in the States at the moment...aside from that obvious **Bush-shaped** cloud, that is.

In fact, they're set for a **Gisele** of a time as *Victoria's Secret* has dispatched a posse – or should that be a pose – of supermodels across the nation. Heading up the army will be the lovely **Heidi Klum**, 31, left.

■ She'll be closely followed by the Brazilian bombshell **Gisele Bündchen**, 24, – pictured acting wacky, right.

They'll be showing the world how nature made them immune even to the mingifying powers of pink bacofoil jackets. Damn them.

■ The parade set off from New York yesterday and will take in the length and breadth of the country.

■ We're sure they'll be very popular. Maybe one of them should join the Democrats.

Dan's a little desperate

KERRY McFadden's new soulmate **Dan Corsi**, 30, has been at pains to deny reports that the couple are dating.

He said: "Kerry and I are just good friends. Reports that we have slept together are totally untrue and have caused a lot of grief."

"I still live with someone."

"I have been living with **Anita** for over a year and we are very happy together."

Meanwhile **Kerry**, 24, who won reality TV show *I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here* last year, is still holding a torch for her estranged husband **Brian**, 24.

Her step-parents have suggested in an interview that **Kerry** will take **Brian** back, given the chance.

Let's hope it doesn't come, for her sake.

SPOTTED

IN London: Voice of *Little Britain* **Tom Baker** browsing in a retro-souvenir shop on Wardour Street. Football pundit **Gary Lineker** waiting at Woking station with his 13-year-old son **George**. Comedian **Stuart Lee** slinking into the Groucho Club on Dean Street. And Cold Feet star **James Nesbitt** on the train to East Dulwich.

HUSH HUSH

WHICH usually solid showbiz coupling hit the skids recently after the male half of the equation tried to charm another lady under his long-term love's nose? The foolish cad was overheard asking a pretty brunette to dance at a glittering awards bash and didn't seem to care that his missus was aware of every word. She simply grimaced and then sighed: "At least he's good-looking."

Liz is a love loser

PALS are becoming concerned about **Elizabeth Jagger** after she discovered that her ex-boyfriend **Sean Lennon** is dating **Milla Jovovich**.

The daughter of **Mick Jagger** and **Jerry Hall** was said to be devastated when **Naomi Campbell** broke the news that she caught **Sean**, 29, and Fifth Element star **Milla**, 28, getting passionate at **P Diddy's** 35th birthday party.

Looks like they won't work it out...

Picture: WIREIMAGE.COM

Call 0871-520-7453, e-mail thegoss@dailystar.co.uk or text DSGOSS to 61616

DAILY STAR says

DAVID Blunkett's plans to overhaul the police leave us distinctly underwhelmed. He promises every neighbourhood will have its own dedicated police team within two years.

Apparently, they'll be only a mobile phone call away from your doorstep.

The Tories are right to dismiss this as yet another of the Home Secretary's PR gimmicks.

Mr Blunkett is trying to sell us the dream of crime-free streets with hordes of friendly bobbies on the beat.

The reality, of course, is that we are plagued by drug dealers, muggers, burglars and vandals.

Crime is out of control and will remain so until Mr Blunkett actually takes tough action against offenders.

And he should start by scrapping the appalling scheme that allows convicts to be released from jail early.

'ELLO 'ELLO 'ELLO, I'M ON THE MOBILE



ON CALL: A mobile cop

LOCAL bobbies on your beat could soon be rushing to get you out of trouble - with a quick call to a mobile.

The return of old-fashioned beat coppers - with a modern slant - was promised by David Blunkett yesterday.

The Home Secretary unveiled plans for police teams for every neighbourhood. People could

by MACER HALL
Political Editor

even be given the mobile phone number of their local bobby.

The Home Secretary wants police to be more like Dixon of Dock Green, the 1960s telly sergeant who began his show with his trademark greeting: "Evening all!"

Mr Blunkett said: "My generation remembers a time when you were on first-name terms with the local bobby. You knew where to find help when you needed it and police understood the problems on their beat."

"I want to bring back the best of good old-fashioned policing - the spirit of dedication to neighbourhoods and the strong bond between community and police."

Losing

The shake-up announced in a White Paper follows growing accusations that cops spend too much time on paperwork.

Mr Blunkett also warned that police were in danger of "losing the trust" of local communities.

He promised £50million to recruit 2,000 more Community Support Officers, who will be given new powers.

Shadow Home Secretary David Davis rubbished the plan as a PR exercise.



Picture: BIGPICTURES/PHOTO.COM

Kylie's look

IT was eyes down for a spot of window shopping as Aussie pop princess Kylie Minogue hit the stores yesterday. But sexy singer Kylie, 36, left Mancunian fashion designer Matthew Williamson's London shop empty handed. "She was just browsing," said one onlooker.

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Blair row on funds

TONY Blair faced a new row over Labour Party funding last night after taking a record cash haul from trade unions.

Figures on political donations showed more than four-fifths of Labour donations in recent months came from Trade Unions.

The Tories warned that the union funding would force Labour to "lurch to the left".



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BABY MURDER MUM CLEARED TEN YEARS ON

A MUM has been cleared of killing her baby ten years ago.

Margaret Smith had been found guilty of smothering four-month-old Keith with a pillow in 1994.

But she won a retrial after key evidence from controversial child doctor Sir Roy Meadow helped jail her.

Yesterday's verdict follows successful appeals by Angela Cannings and Sally Clark, as well as pharmacist Trupti Patel, who were all accused of killing their babies.

Rare

Campaigner Penny Mellor said: "This is not the last case. There are many more in the pipeline."

Ms Smith had previously been accused, but cleared, of killing her first child, five-and-a-half-month-old Kelly, in 1992.

She was convicted after a trial in Leeds in 2002 when Sir Roy said: "One cot death in a family is rare and two even rarer."

During that trial it emerged Ms Smith had taken baby Keith to

■ by MARIANNA PARTASIDES

the hospital because he couldn't breathe just weeks before he died.

Sir Roy said this was common with women who go on to kill their babies.

The Newcastle Crown Court jury were not told that the latest eight-day hearing was a retrial.

They were also unaware that Ms Smith and second husband Keith were jailed for six years each for killing her first husband in 1995.

Robert Brannan was found dead in the bath with 51 stab wounds. Scots-born Ms Smith, 39, collapsed in the dock when she heard she was free to go.

Solicitor Richard Thompson, said she was relieved her ordeal was finally over.

He said: "She's been under enormous pressure and will just want to get back to her husband and put her life back together after three and a half years in prison."

Ms Smith was first arrested after a nine-year-old girl said she saw her put the pillow over baby Keith's face to stop him crying.



FREED: Margaret Smith



EVIDENCE: Sir Roy

Bot stuff Kate

CURVY Kate Beckinsale looks fitter than ever as she warms up for a workout at the gym.

The Pearl Harbour beauty, 31, was snapped warming up near her home in Santa Monica, California.

Rear's to you Kate.

Pictures: X11AGENCY.COM

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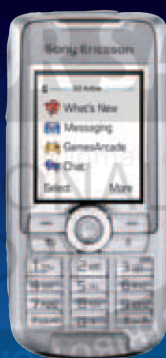
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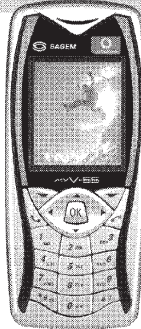
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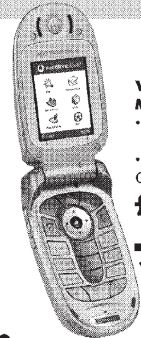


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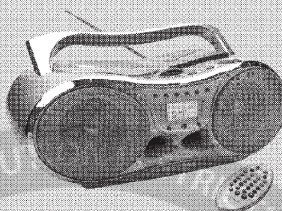
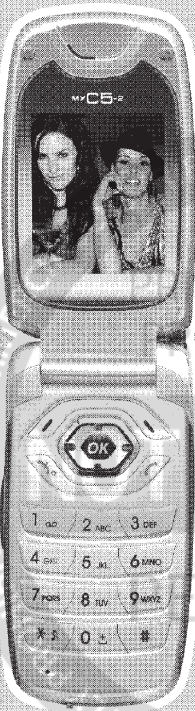


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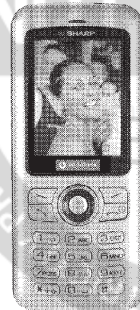


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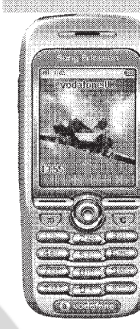


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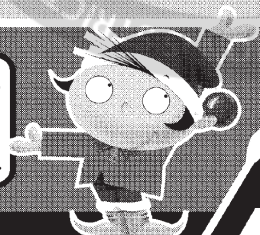
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R&B's smoothie **Lemar** once bashed another car and failed to 'fess up to the owner. In the new issue of *More* magazine, out today, the singer, 26, says he felt terrible about it.



JOE MOTT'S hot

Edited
by KIM
DAWSON

CAUGHT
LIVE



JAY SEAN
The Scala, London

WITH R&B a solid staple in the British public music diet it's unsurprising that a fresh twist is being lapped up by listeners in the shape of **Jay Sean's** Asian flavoured cuts.

Latest Top Five hit *Stolen*, and summer smash *Eyes On You*, showed his underground beats fit into the mainstream with ease.

A party vibe, from *One Night to the battling Me Against Myself*, carried on all evening. It proved that Jay is equally as impressive live as he is on his debut album, which came out on Monday.

KIM DAWSON

Yanks for nothing

BUSTED NEARLY BLEW U.S.

BUSTED almost quit their assault on the US before it got started.

Matt, James and Charlie were furious at plans to sell them as just another boyband when they met music execs.

They were desperate to shake off their teeny tag and wanted to take on rock acts like **Matt's** idols **Green Day**.

Speaking at the launch of their MTV series *America Or Busted*, which tracks their progress in the States, bemused Matt told me: "At one point we were ready to give up and go home."

The programme, which starts on November 25 at 10.30pm, follows the lads as they launch their first US single, *What I Go To School For*. In the opening

EXCLUSIVE

episode Charlie, 19, says: "I'd rather fail and be perceived right than succeed and be perceived wrong."

But when they discuss their plans over the phone with their record company, and later at a board meeting in the Big Apple, it's not looking good.

Better

Matt, 21, explained: "We played in a car park at one point. But as the series goes on you see that we have an amazing record company and things get better."

"We were aware going out there that it was going to be tough. They

have lots of bands like us but hopefully that means we can fit in easily."

In the first episode of the show, which follows *Busted's* travel from New York through San Diego, Texas, Miami, Seattle and Las Vegas, the lads confess their fears at being lumped in with kiddies' favourites.

Matt says on camera: "When we started in the UK we were seen as a joke act."

"We were worried we'd have to go back to a part of our lives we really cringe about."

Busted will return to America after their winter tour, which starts in Nottingham on Monday.

Excited James, 21, told me: "I have lots of special things up my sleeve which I am in the middle of planning for the shows."



CHAT: Busted with our Kim

BRITNEY Spears is on course for her first UK No.1 album with her Greatest Hits out-selling closest rivals **Westlife**. **Eminem** joins the race when *Encore* is released on Friday. But it's a coup for **Britters**, who has topped the US album chart four times. **Daniel Bedingfield's** return with *Second First Impression* is surprisingly only just in the Top 10 midweek, behind **Shania Twain's** best of collection. **U2** looks set to snatch the top single spot with *Vertigo*.

CULLUM BOTTLES IT

JAMIE Cullum suffered a horrific hand injury filming his new video.

The pocket-sized pianist insisted he perform all the stunts for *Everlasting Love* and after leaping about like a lunatic, got a sizeable chunk of glass stuck in his paw.

The video - loosely based on **Fatboy Slim's** *Weapon Of Choice* clip - called for the jazz hobbit to jump off a balcony and indulge in all sorts of acrobatics.

But he took a tumble after one tricky manoeuvre and cut his hand on a broken bottle.

An on-set spy told me: "They rushed Jamie to hospital, but some of the glass was so deep they couldn't remove it, so he has to wait until it comes to the surface."

Filming resumed the next day with a stand-in for hurt Jamie.

BEYONCE

Knowles looked a picture of glamour she left the MTV *TRL* studios in New York.

Partly wrapped up in furs, the 23-year-old had a delighted grin on her face after the visit to plug **Destiny's Child's** new album, *Destiny Fulfilled*, with bandmates **Kelly Rowland**, 23, and 24-year-old **Michelle Williams**.

The collection is out on Monday and will leave fans smiling from ear to ear, I predict.

MARIAH Carey has roped in **Kanye West** to produce her comeback album. After the failure of 2002's *Charmbracelet* she's sought help from the urban community, with **Snoop Dogg** and **Pharrell Williams** appearing on new single *Say Something*.



Picture: FILMMAGIC.COM

NO DRUGS FOR EMINEM

EMINEM is plagued by fans thinking he's on drugs all the time after rapping about them so frequently.

Marshall Mathers, 32, has made no secret of his penchant for ecstasy, LSD and magic mushrooms in the past, but has cleaned up his act - even if people still don't believe him.

And since kicking his habit, the star, right, feels better than ever.

He said: "I definitely feel more wide-eyed and more aware of my surroundings and what's going on."

"I went through my little phase, and I just realised it wasn't the thing for me."

"In fact it wasn't the thing for me before fame and there's no reason for it to be the thing for me now."

"That's especially since I've reached a certain level of maturity that hopefully includes a happy medium of immaturity." Er, whatever, Em...



Rule of Ja

JA Rule is so flash he employs someone to download tunes to his iPod.

The rapper, who had a No.1 with *Wonderful*, told me: "He gets me tunes that I might like."

"I get a lot of fresh new hot tracks." Ja's new album *R.U.L.E* had better be on there or he'll be picking up his P45.

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DEAR Esther



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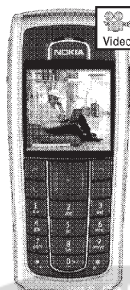
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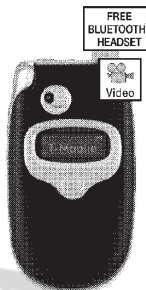
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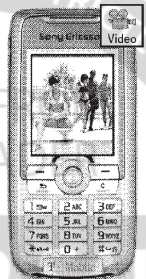
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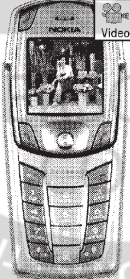
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ORDEAL: Jade Goody

Jade's delivery drama

BIG Brother star Jade Goody yesterday told how she almost died giving birth to her new son.

Jade, 23, lost six pints of blood during Freddie's birth seven weeks ago.

A month before his arrival she had another major scare on holiday in Spain when her waters broke.

Jade, who also has an 18-month-old son Bobby with ex-boyfriend Jeff Brazier, praised him for his support during the trauma.

The couple split in the summer, but she said they may get back together.

Jade said: "I would be lying if I said I didn't have any feelings for him."

STUPID STUNTS

VANDALS copying TV's Jackass stunt show stole buggies to carve up the putting greens at Consett Golf Club, Co Durham.

PC BRIGADE IN BAN ON KIDS' XMAS LANTERNS



Pictures: WIREIMAGE.COM

A VAMPIRE slayer, a singer and a Hollywood star were guests for Glamour magazine's Women of the Year Awards, in New York. Sexy Sarah Michelle Gellar, 27, who played TV's Buffy, sparkled while fellow beauties Brit actress Kate Winslet, 29, and soul diva Alicia Keys, 23, looked just as saucy.

Tasty trio glam it up

by ELIZABETH JAMES

A CHRISTMAS lantern parade has been moved to January because lotto chiefs refuse to fund religious events.

More than 600 youngsters were to have taken part in the Christmas procession.

But organisers had to find a non-religious day to avoid excluding or offending non-Christian faiths.

And to the dismay of Christian leaders, it has been approved for lottery cash simply because it has been switched from Christmas.

The parade's organisers, Mantle Community Arts, in Coalville, Leics, yesterday confirmed funding problems were behind the change.

Disgrace

They said the National Lottery Awards For All Scheme was reluctant to provide money for an event forming part of a specific religious festival.

District Councillor Phil Holland was furious: "It is a disgraceful decision and a case of political correctness gone mad."

"The kids are being deprived of the chance to participate in the pre-Christmas celebrations. I will fight to get it restored next year."

"I predict that very few people will turn out on January 22 to witness an event that is going to be celebrating nothing whatsoever."



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five



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SOAPER STAR

Lorra time left

FANS hoping to see the back of Emmerdale witch Steph Stokes may be disappointed.

Lorraine Chase, 53, who plays the murderous middle-aged harpie, has signed up with the ITV soap for another six months.

And that means Stephanie – soon to be charged with the murder of her dad's girlfriend Shelly Williams – will not be making a swift exit to jail after all.

Lorraine, who has based the character on someone she knows, said: "Even I don't know what's happened to Shelly, but there's always hope."

"I don't know where the storyline's

■ by LEROY SPINKS

going at the moment. Emmerdale has a life of its own.

"It creates as it goes along. Nobody can be sure what's going to happen."

And the former model, who has been in the show for the past two years, added: "I don't know if Steph can avoid prison now."

"But she's been in prison before and she can stand up for herself."

"I like six-month work contracts and Emmerdale has taken up my next six-month option, which I'm glad about because it is like a big family."

■ **HUNKY** Keith Duffy – who plays Coronation Street's Irish charmer Ciaran McCarthy – reckons at 30 he's too old to be a sex symbol.

■ The former heart-throb of 90s chart-toppers Boyzone has long since settled down in Dublin with wife Lisa and their children.

■ And he said: "I do get the odd racy fan letter, but nowadays it's more from older women."



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HOT ROLE: Kacey

Mo's Moon struck

THERE'S a shock on the way for EastEnders fans.

Little Mo Mitchell, alias actress Kacey Ainsworth, 34, is about to get the hots for her brother-in-law Alfie Moon in a new storyline.

And her affection may well be returned by Alfie (Shane Richie, 40), who recently gave his "slapper" wife Kate the heave-ho following yet another bedroom infidelity.

Last night a series insider hinted: "Something is on the cards, involving Mo and Alfie, who are going to get a lot closer as a new plot unfolds."

LOOTS

Slacker and Cilla in sick shop raid

■ by TONY LEONARD
CORONATION Street's mother-from-hell Cilla Brown and her boyfriend Les Battersby are about to hit an all-time low.

The couple will go on a looting mission – after the corner shop has gone up in flames leaving Dev and Sumita fighting for their lives.

But bedhopping Cilla (Wendi Peters, 36) won't give a toss about the Alahans, or the fact that Dev's shop empire is in ruins after a series of arson attacks by bunny-boiler Maya Sharma.

And she'll persuade slacker Les, played by Bruce Jones, 51, that rich pickings are on offer.

Sick

They'll use the Corrie confusion to mask their looting spree.

A Corrie insider said: "It's absolutely awful stuff – and just typical of Cilla who is the leading light in this sick enterprise."

"Mind you, Les is just as bad. After all Dev is one of his bosses at the taxi firm."

The gruesome twosome will even press-gang Cilla's schoolboy son Chesney (Sam Aston) into their



SHOP RAIDER: Les

scheme. The reluctant lad will be used as a decoy and told to distract police while his no-good mum and Les sneak past.

But the insider added: "It may not all go according to plan for Cilla and Les."

"They are deserving of a big comeuppance."



Deb's handful

HOLLYOAKS babe Debbie Dean finds herself in this compromising situation after getting all tired and emotional in *The Dog*.

After drowning her sorrows, Debbie, left, played by Jodi Albert, 21, ends up in the arms of ex-boyfriend Darren Osbourne (Ashley Taylor-Dawson, 22).

He tries to take advantage of her tipsy state back at his flat, but a bang on the head brings Debbie to her senses. Things get worse though when current boyfriend Dan Hunter (Andy McNair, 24) sees the cut.

BATTERSBY



White wedding

CORONATION Street's big Christmas wedding turned into a fairytale occasion yesterday.

Members of the soap's cast spent a second day near Manchester filming the wedding of curvy nanny Claire Casey (Julie Haworth, 22) to nice guy Ashley Peacock (Steve Arnold, 29).

To add to the fairytale effect, ITV brought in snow-making machines to give the wedding something extra – a white Christmas.

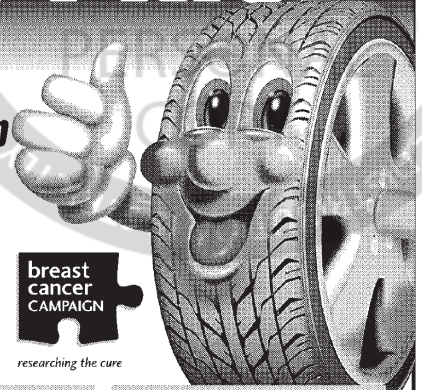
Ashley is due to marry Claire in a Christmas Day *Corrie* special guaranteed to be a ratings buster.

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BECKHAM GETS RING OF STEEL

Spanish marines beef up security

TERROR target David Beckham has hired two Spanish special forces officers to protect his family from an al-Qaida attack.

The England skipper is terrified his name is on a death list drawn up by Osama bin Laden's blood-thirsty followers.

Becks is already guarded by elite

■ **EXCLUSIVE** by GARY NICKS

ex-SAS minders who provide round-the-clock cover for him, wife Victoria and their sons Brooklyn and Romeo.

Feared

But the Real Madrid star was left with no option but to beef-up his security after being linked to three terror attacks.

He has now hand-picked two crack

fighters who trained with Spain's feared Marine Corps UOE unit to review his security operations.

The pair are highly trained in hand-to-hand combat, intelligence gathering and search and destroy missions.

The UOE's weapon of choice is the deadly Llama 82B 9mm pistol with laser aiming and silencer.

Their orders will be to prevent a suicide car bombing on Becks, his inner circle and the fleet of luxury cars he uses.

They will also make sure his new £5 million Madrid home is properly fortified and that security arrangements at Real are up to scratch.

An insider said: "It's no secret David's family is the most important thing in his life and of course money is no object when it comes to protecting them."

It was just a week ago that Becks was the target of a terrorist attack at Real's training ground.

Three vehicles in an underground car park were set on fire by explosive devices.

The blaze came five days after the Daily Star revealed Islamic extremists plotted to bomb Goldenballs and his Real team-mates.

Police raids found evidence that a gang, known as the Martyrs for Morocco, planned to drive a lorry packed with explosives into the Bernabeu stadium during a match.

Hits not so Fab

THE Beatles have topped yet another chart – for recording the worst hit song ever.

The Fab Four's Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da – also a No1 hit for Marmalade – heads the Mars Music Hall of Shame.

Music fans reckon that the sugary single is even worse than efforts by PJ and Duncan (now known as Ant and Dec), Paul "G8" Gascoigne and Cliff.

Gazza's Fog On The Tyne, recorded with Geordie group Lindisfarne, takes second spot in the poll.

Meatloaf and Steps also have hits in the top ten.

Tasty Traci's dead sexy

SATIN sensation Traci Bingham, 36, shows a lot of front as she joins in celebrations for the launch of horror flick All Souls Day: Dia de los Muertos in Santa Monica, California.

The film is about corpses coming alive and preying on party-goers.

A reveller said: "There's one thing you can say about a Baywatch babe like Traci – she is drop-dead gorgeous."



Picture: ALBERT L. ORTEGA/IMMAGE.COM

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KEEN: Gillian Anderson

X-Files agents on call

by PETER DYKE
X-FILES investigators Mulder and Scully are making a comeback.

David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson have agreed to repeat their roles as the FBI agents on the big screen. David, 44, says he and 36-year-old Gillian are eager to get back together one more time to solve the mysteries of government cover-ups over aliens.

Missing

He said: "We'd love to do it. It's just a matter of tidying up the little sticking points."

Meanwhile, a new sci-fi team are about to hit our TV screens in a groundbreaking show about alien abduction.

Investigators Tom Baldwin and Diana Skouris are signed up to probe the mysterious return of thousands of people who have been "missing" for years.

The series, called 4400 - due to air on Sky One on November 21 - is already being heralded as the new X-Files.

A MAN who lost his wallet was asked to report to the police station in Lewes, Sussex, after it was handed in - and was then arrested after officers found it contained a packet of cocaine.

In Pole position

A DAIRY farmer was stunned when his job ad sparked a flood of replies - from Poland.

Chris May put an ad on his Jobcentre's website in Warrminster, Wilts., but locals weren't keen on the £6-an-hour position.

But when word spread, via a newspaper in Poland, his phone started ringing non stop.

Workers even turned up unannounced on his doorstep having trekked more than 1,000 miles.

Mr May, who got 100 calls from eager Poles, said: "Six quid an hour is a lot of money for someone from Poland."

The average wage in Poland is just £2 an hour.

ALHOUSE ROCK

INMATES of a jail in Velletri, near Rome, have sold more than 5,000 bottles of their own label red wine called Fugitive.

CRIMINAL...LAGS GET FIVE-HOUR KNEES-UP

A PRISON dubbed Butlins has angered staff by holding a party for inmates.

by JOHN CONNOR

Jailbirds at Ford open prison were even allowed to invite their families to the five-hour knees-up.

And a steel band was hired to help the party go with a swing while a bouncy castle was brought in for the children. A

hot buffet was laid on and soft drinks were served to the 45 lags and their guests at a cost of £500.

One angry officer said: "It was a joke. Staff were taken off other duties to cover the event. People will think the world has gone mad. They are supposed to be here to be punished. What will the victims of

these burglars and robbers be thinking when they realise our taxes are being spent on entertaining these criminals?"

Alcohol

But governors at Ford, near Arundel, West Sussex, defended the event.

Paul Laxton, deputy governor, said: "This was a chance

for prisoners to spend quality time with their children."

Ford - which in the past has held high-society criminals Darius Guppy and Lord Brocket and footballer George Best - is also called the Escape Club.

In 2002, 60 prisoners just walked out and last year it was revealed that prisoners were jumping over a perimeter fence to stock up on alcohol.



ESCAPE CLUB: Ford open nick



Picture: RAMLEY / XPOSURE

Anna's smiles sexier

BLONDE beauty Anna Kournikova was in a sunny mood on a shopping trip in Miami. The tennis babe, 23, showed off her beaming smile as she laughed and joked with a pal. An onlooker said: "It's not hard to see why she leaves most girls in the shade."

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It's curly bird Geri

EARLY-bird Geri Halliwell gave up her lie-in to promote her new single Ride It on breakfast telly. **The former Spice Girl, 32,** plugged the track on GMTV as she bids for her first hit for three years. **She didn't seem bleary-eyed – but her frizzy hair** gave her a fresh-out-of-bed look. Geri nice...

KIDS GET SAFE SEX TXT TIPS

BRITAIN'S youngsters are getting safe sex advice – on their mobile phones.

The messages include information about what contraception methods are available – and where young people can get them.

They also list the symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases.

The mobile phone service has been launched by the charity Brook, which gives sexual health tips and contraception to the under-25s.

It's part of the battle to stem the UK's growing sexual health crisis. Sexually

by **BILL MARTIN**

transmitted illnesses rose by 4% last year. Youngsters who text **BROOK HELP** to 81222 will be sent a menu of options to select from.

Facts

Jan Barlow, chief executive of Brook, said: "Our new texting service will mean more young people have the facts quite literally at their fingertips."

● We revealed last month how doctors have started texting girls as young as 15 every day reminding them to take their contraceptive pills.

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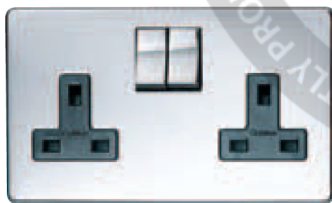
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LADY IN RED: Sophie looks a right little devil in this one-piece front buckled number